

2017 Northwest Fire Statistics

- Approximately 1,121,000 acres were affected by wildfire in the Northwest (NW):
 - 711,100 acres in Oregon and 409,989 acres in Washington.
- A total of 3,276* reported fires were reported in the NW Geographic Area:
 - 1,991 in Oregon: human-caused 877 (44%), lightning-caused 1,114 (56%)
 - **NFS lands in Oregon:** 1,133 fires 347 human-caused (30.5%), lightning 786 (69.5%)
- 75 fires in Oregon met the large fire criteria of more than 100 acres in timber
- NW Incident Management Teams (Type 1 & Type 2) were mobilized 42 times, including a mid-October type 2 team assignment to the Miller Complex (Abney Fire) and a short type 1 team assignment to Puerto Rico for hurricane response.
- To date, a total of 35,833 lightning strikes have been recorded. The largest number of strikes occurring in one day was 5,756 (6/26).
- The largest fire/complex was the Chetco Bar for a total of 191,121 acres.
- The estimated total firefighting cost to date exceeds \$568,548,454; of which \$438,436,911*** was spent on fires in Oregon and \$130,111,543*** in Washington.
 - FS YTD Actual WFSU Suppression Costs (FMML): **\$324,743,636** (as of Sept. 27)
 - BLM YTD Actual LF200 Suppression Costs (FBMS): **\$30,413,777** (as of Sept. 27)
- During peak fire activity, more than 10,358 firefighters and support personnel were actively working on NW fires.
- Structures burned in Oregon:
 - 16 Single Residences
 - 0 Mixed Commercial
 - 0 non-resident
 - 45 minor structures
- BAER assessments were completed on 708,556 acres
 - 67,129 high soil burn severity (9.5%)
 - 185,513 moderate soil burn severity (26.2%)
 - 445,914 unburned, very low and low severity (64.3%)

Post Fire Recovery Brief

Chetco Bar and the Fires on the Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest

- Overall the soil burn severity for all the fires were found to be much lower than originally anticipated but especially so for Chetco Bar with less than 6% found in high severity. Treatments authorized for the Rogue River-Siskiyou BAER include over 100 miles of road work, several miles of trail stabilization, limited hazard tree treatments, hazard signage, invasive species treatments and cultural resource protections.

Eagle Creek Fire

- The Forest Service assembled a Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team of experts in soils, geology, hydrology, engineering, botany, recreation, archaeology, and fisheries, along with GIS support and public information officers. Starting September 25, 2017, the team conducted a rapid assessment of potential imminent post-fire threats to critical values such as life and safety, property, natural resources, and cultural resources. Treatments that were recommended and approved for immediate implementation within the Eagle Creek Fire include rockfall protections at Multnomah Lodge, road and trail treatments, limited danger tree mitigations, emergency closure and hazard warning signage, and invasive species treatments.

Umpqua National Forest

- The Umpqua National Forest also convened multiple BAER teams over the course of the fire season to address the post-fire emergency needs. The majority of the fires on the Umpqua showed high percentages (89%) of low to very low soil burn severities and therefore had a lesser need to post-fire emergency funding. BAER treatments approved for the Umpqua include road and trail drainage upgrades, emergency hazard signage, cultural resource protections and invasive species treatments.

Deschutes NF: Milli Fire

- Milli fire had one of the higher soil burn severities of the Oregon fires with 47% of the area in moderate and high. BAER treatments in the Milli fire included road and trail treatments, hazard signs, cultural site protections, and invasive species treatments. The Deschutes has been focused on treating roadside danger trees to reopen roads to all safe public access and they are not pursuing area salvage at this time. They are considering pursuing a small, less than 250 acre timber salvage on the McKay fire, which burned approximately 1,200 acres on the Bend Fort Rock Ranger District.

Willamette National Forest

- Three BAER teams were used to assess the Willamette fires over the course of the fire season. Like the Umpqua fires, the majority of the soil burn severities were low to very low. Several BAER treatments have been approved for these fires with road and trail work, including the Pacific Crest Trail, hazard warning signs, and invasive species treatments. Willamette is focused on reopening the approximately 88 miles roads affected by the 2017 fires by treating roadside danger trees. Finally, the Willamette has identified approximately \$1.4 million dollars in currently unfunded post fire recovery needs to stabilize their road system, restore infrastructure damaged by the fires and restore vegetation. The Forest Service is pursuing options for funding some of these

post fire restoration needs as the Willamette does not have the funding to implement these activities at this time.